



Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority

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June 6, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

State Releases Point-in-Time Homeless Count Numbers

INDIANAPOLIS- The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) has released the statewide findings from the Point-in-Time homeless count held on January 26th, 2011. The count is required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for every community receiving federal funds for programs to aid the homeless and must be conducted every two years during the last two weeks of January. In Indiana, the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority and the South Bend Continuum of Care conduct counts covering all 92 counties in Indiana.

"The Point in Time Count is the most comprehensive and effective way to measure how many Hoosiers are facing hardships when it comes to their basic housing needs," said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, who chairs the IHCDA Board. "These results are a testament to Indiana's hard work in allocating our resources in our long term goal to end homelessness in our state."

During the last week of January 2011, 6,166 individuals in 4,408 households were homeless. This is a 1% increase from 2010, but a 17% decrease from 2007. Overall, in Indiana the largest decrease was found in the number of households with children experiencing homelessness.

"This program emphasizes the need to prevent homelessness and find permanent housing for households experiencing homelessness," said Rodney Stockment, IHCDA Housing and Services Director. "Credit should be given the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program for the reduction of Hoosier households with children experiencing homelessness.

As of the last week in January, the Indiana Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) provided rental supports and social services to 2,253 households either at imminent risk or who were experiencing homelessness. Eighty three percent of homeless households leaving the program moved on to permanent stable housing.

"Another factor is the efforts of the Indiana Permanent Supportive Housing Initiative, whose goal is to develop 1,400 units of supportive housing for households experiencing chronic homelessness by 2013," said Stockment. "As units of supportive housing open there has been a significant reduction of shelter use by Hoosiers experiencing long-term homelessness."

The Point in Time Count takes place to accurately gauge the homeless population by category: homeless with children, homeless without children, and subpopulations including chronically homeless, unaccompanied youth, veterans, domestic violence victims, persons with severe mentally illness, chronic substance abuse, and/or persons living with AIDS, which is then broken down into sheltered versus unsheltered.

- 6,166 individuals comprising 4,408 households were homeless during the last week in January 2011.
- Of the 6,166 individuals found and identified as experiencing homelessness, 646 were unsheltered and found on the street, and 5,520 were staying in emergency shelters or in temporary transitional housing programs.
- 18% of households counted, or 776 households (2,415 individuals), were households with dependent children.
- 673 of the adults counted were veterans, an increase of 8% from 2010.
- 1,009 of the adults counted were women fleeing from domestic violence.
- 28% of the adults counted suffered from a chronic addiction.
- 14% of the adults counted identified themselves as having a severe mental illness.
- 10% of individuals counted can be characterized as "chronically homeless".

For further information or the regional results of the Point-in-Time homeless count please contact Kelli Barker at kbarker@ihcda.in.gov.

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The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), chaired by Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, creates housing opportunity, generates and preserves assets, and revitalizes neighborhoods by investing financial and technical resources in the development efforts of qualified partners throughout Indiana. IHCDA believes that growing Indiana's economy starts at home. For more information, go to www.ihcda.in.gov. For updates from Lt. Governor Skillman and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.lg.in.gov